

to have a complete collection of the animals of these islands.

Dr. Weinland proposed a new division of the five species of flying fish found along the coast of North America, which have hitherto all been referred to the genus *Exocetus*.

In the common species *E. exiliens*, the ventral fins are nearest to the anus, and the longest; the same is true of *E. noveboracensis*; in *E. furcatus*, and *E. comatus*, the ventrals are very long; in *E. mesogaster*, the ventrals are very short, about one fourth as long as the pectorals, and placed anterior to the middle of the body, between the anus and the pectorals; the shape of the lower jaw is also angular. He would arrange the species thus: *Exocetus exiliens*, and *E. noveboracensis*; *Cypselurus furcatus*, and *C. comatus*; for *mesogaster*, he would make a new genus *Halocypselus*. He thought that the flight of the *exoceti* was not a mere mechanical, parachute-like suspension of the body, but more nearly akin to the true flight of birds than has been generally supposed.

Prof. Agassiz described a new species of Skate from the Sandwich Islands, for which he proposed to constitute a new genus, under the name of *Goniobatis*.

He gave the distinguishing characters of *Myliobatis*, *Rhinoptera*, *Aëtobatis*, and *Zygobatis*, which he divided into two sub-families of *Myliobatinae* and *Aëtobatinae*. In the new genus *Goniobatis*, the palate is broadest behind, and the plates are obtusely angular, with their rounded edges forward. The *A. flagellum* of the Indian Ocean and Red Sea, with plates forming an acute angle, he would place in his new genus *Goniobatis*; and to the present species, with rounded nasal lobes, he proposed to give the name of *G. meleagris*.

Dr. Storer described and exhibited a drawing of a new species of *Zeus*.

He remarked that Valenciennes, in the 20th volume of his "*Histoire Naturelle des Poissons*," describes four species of this

genus; two as being found along the Mediterranean coast, and one of these in the waters of Great Britain; a third at the Cape of Good Hope, and the fourth in Japan. No species has as yet been found upon the American coast. The specimen now described, was found at Provincetown, Mass., and is very dissimilar to either of the previously known species. Dr. Storer proposed for it the name of

ZEUS OCELLATUS.

DESCRIPTION—Body oval, very much compressed; cupreous, marked with numerous more or less circular dark spots; base of second dorsal fin longer than that of the first. A series of large bony plates, marked by well-defined elevated striæ, which terminate in recurved spines, standing out from the sides of the fish, extend along the base of the dorsal and anal fins to the abdomen and throat. Along the dorsal fin, seven of these are seen; the fifth and sixth of which are the largest; along the anal fin five, the fourth the largest; along the abdomen eight, which overlap each other—along the throat, four also overlapping each other. Length, 6 inches. The fin rays are as follows: D. 9.24; P. 12; V. 6; A. 3.24; C. 14. Found at Provincetown, Mass.

Dr. Abbot, chairman of the Committee appointed to nominate a candidate for the office of Recording Secretary, reported the name of Dr. S. Kneeland, Jr. The Society proceeded to ballot for Secretary, and made a unanimous choice of Dr. Kneeland.

Dr. Cabot presented, in the name of Mr. Emanuel Samuels, the following birds, all valuable, and some of them new to the Society's Cabinet: Black and Yellow Warbler, (*Mniotilta maculosa*, Gmel.) male and female; the female is not described nor figured. Blue-winged Yellow Warbler, (*M. solitaria*, Wils.) male; the only specimen known to have been procured in the State. Golden-winged Warbler, (*M. chrysoptera*, Linn.) male; the second specimen ever seen by Dr. Cabot from Massachusetts, and said to have been obtained from a flock. Blue Yellow-backed Warbler, (*M. Americana*, Linn.)